

Reducing Health Disparities in High Cervical Cancer Mortality Regions

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NCI's Challenge: Health Disparities Present Scientific, Moral and Ethical Dilemmas

- Profound advances in biomedical science have occurred over the last several decades, which for many Americans, have contributed to increased longevity and improved quality of life.
- Despite this progress, a heavier burden of disease is borne by some population groups in the United States, particularly the poor and underserved.
- *The unequal burden of disease in our society is a challenge to science as well as a moral and ethical dilemma for our nation.*

NCI's Challenge: Race versus Racism

- While health disparities have been framed historically as racial and ethnic differences, race and ethnic classifications have been socially and politically determined and have no basis in biological science.
- However, the consequences of the *racism* inherent in racial classifications have, for some racial and ethnic groups, been associated with:
 - fewer social, educational and economic opportunities,
 - greater exposure to stress and unsafe environments, and
 - reduced access to quality health care.

NCI's Challenge: Close the Gap Between Discovery and Delivery

- There is also a critical disconnect between research discovery and program delivery and this disconnect is, in and of itself, a key determinant of the unequal burden of cancer in our society.
- *Barriers that prevent the benefits of research from reaching all populations, particularly those who bear the greatest disease burden, must be identified and removed.*

Cancer Health Disparity Issues for FY2001 CRCHD Policy Review Process

- **Health Disparities in High Cervical Cancer Mortality Regions**
- **“Racialism” in Cancer Care**

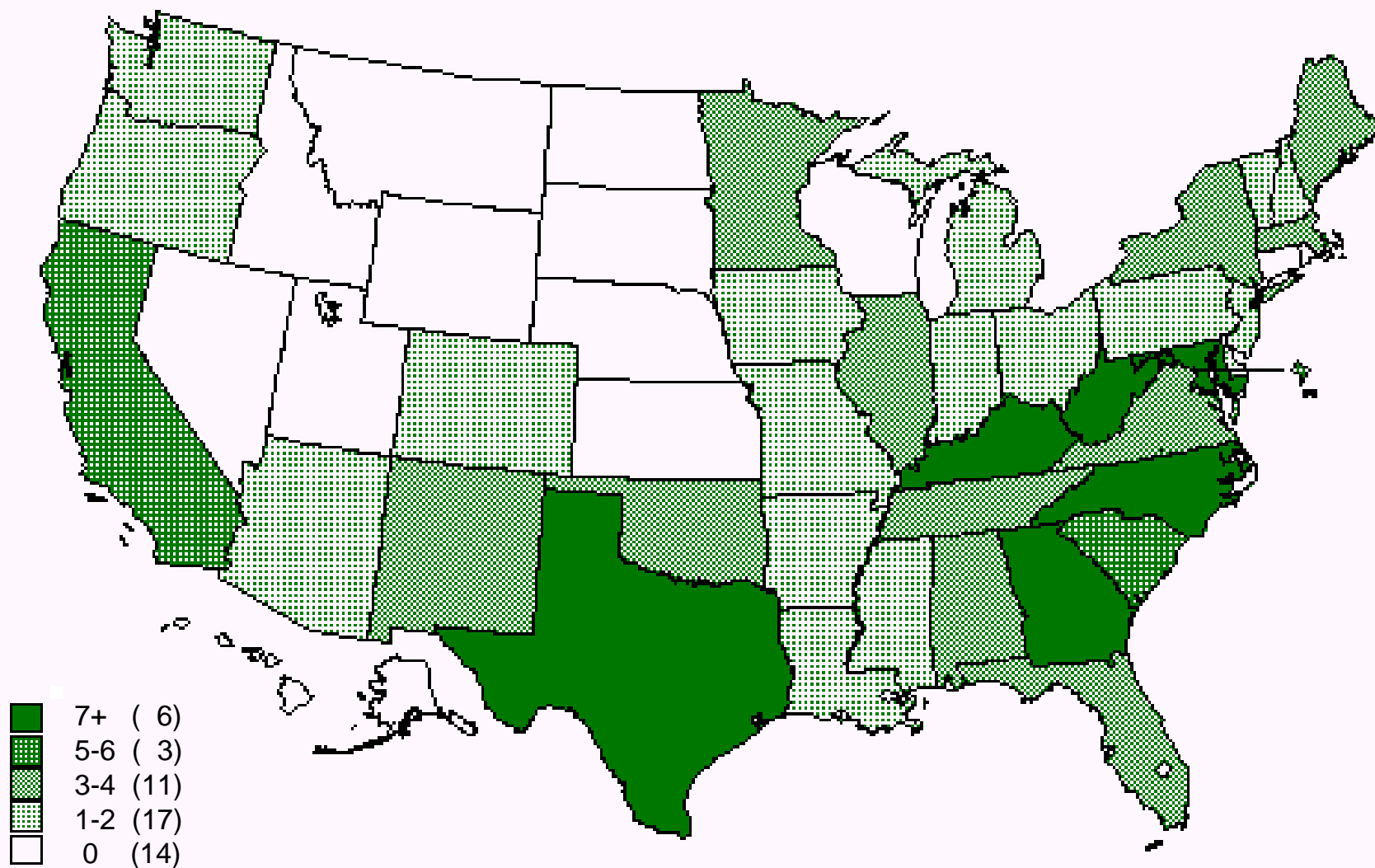
CRCHD Policy Issue Review Steps for Cervical Cancer Policy Analysis

- **Step 1: Review Existing Data**

- **Contract Evidence Reviews of the Literature**
- **Complete Conceptual Review of Think Tank Participant Ideas**

- **Step 2: Review Evidence at Round Table & Think Tank Meetings**

Attendees by State



CRCHD Policy Issue Review Steps for Cervical Cancer Policy Analysis

- **Step 3: Take Think Tank
Recommendations and
Proactively Inform Policy Makers
and Partners About
Opportunities for Policy Change
and Intervention**